

233 South Wacker Drive Suite 800 Chicago, Illinois 60606

312 454 0400 www.cmap.illinois.gov

August 12, 2013

# Black Metropolis National Heritage Area (BMNHA) Feasibility Study

Project Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Monday, August 5, 2013 Chicago Public Library Bee Branch Community Room 3647 S. State Street

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

### **ATTENDANCE**

*Present*: Beth Johnson -City of Chicago; James McKay – Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT); Paula Robinson – BMNHAC; Yvette LeGrand – BMNHAC; Christopher Reed-BMNHAC/Roosevelt University

Absent: Christopher Vaughn – WTTW; Delmarie Cobb-PAC; Kimberly Brown-PAC/Legacy Attorney

CMAP Staff present: Sef Okoth; Erin Aleman; Samantha Robinson; Kendra Smith

#### 1. Welcome

The meeting began at 2:10 pm and was facilitated by Sef Okoth from CMAP

### 2. Overview of draft feasibility study

Erin Aleman walked through the draft feasibility study that was sent to PAC members prior to the August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting for review. She provided details on how each chapter was formatted and how the information could be best utilized by the PAC moving forward.

### 3. Committee comments on draft feasibility study

Committee members had the remainder of the meeting to provide comments and discuss the feasibility draft and next steps in the process. The following comments were received:

- Reformatting of asset tables should be done to highlight Black Metropolis specific sights and not group them in with all listed assets
- The study should reinforce African-American culture in the north (should we address the possibility of disappearing black culture; should the NHA give rise to the conversation of the reemergence of black culture?)
- Should the feasibility report showcase specific details on how the City of Chicago will support the project?

- When discussing historic resources in the study (i.e. Table 1) city historic sites should be separated from national register sites.
- The PAC requested CMAP provide a packet of engagement tools including:
  - o A PowerPoint template
  - A fact sheet packet for the project webpage and community brochure
  - o Support letter templates for webpage download
- The PAC informed CMAP there are a series of funding programs, essays and anthologies forthcoming that will complement the work that has been completed for the feasibility study.

## 4. Next steps

PAC members were asked to submit all final comments to CMAP by Friday, August 16, 2013. CMAP will incorporate comments from the August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting and August 16<sup>th</sup> submissions into the final feasibility report.